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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/671,754	09/26/2003	Cosmin Iorga	1839-US	9346

7590 08/05/2005

Legal Department
Teradyne, Inc.
321 Harrison Avenue
Boston, MA 02118

EXAMINER

WELLS, KENNETH B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2816

DATE MAILED: 08/05/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/671,754

Applicant(s)

IORGA, COSMIN

Examiner

Kenneth B. Wells

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 July 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5,8 and 13-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,8 and 13-17 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 5/23/05.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____.

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1. The amendment filed on 7/28/05 has been received and entered in the case. In view of the newly cited references provided with applicant's 5/23/05 IDS, new prior art rejections of claim 5 are now set forth.

2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

3. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 5, it cannot be determined which element(s) of the invention constitute the recited "means for detecting changes in the voltage supply" and also which element(s) of the invention constitute the recited "means for generating a compensation current." Since this claim is in means-plus-function format, it is critical that the specification and drawings make clear how these claimed features read on the disclosed embodiments. The reason for the ambiguity is that it appears to the examiner that the circuit CM2 in instant Fig. 4 performs both functions of detecting changes in the voltage supply VDD and also generating the compensation current (from a careful reading of applicant's

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description of this figure). Also creating confusion is the statement is applicant's previous remarks that claim 1 "roughly corresponds" to claim 5. This is not seen to be the case, because the two "means" set forth in claim 5 do not line up with the recited "supply voltage current mirror" and "second programmable current mirror" in claim 1.

4. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gray III.

Note Fig. 3, where the recited "means for detecting changes in the voltage supply" reads on circuit 60; the recited "supply voltage source" reads on the power supply which outputs VDD; the recited "means for generating a compensation signal" reads on the combination of resistor 42 and MOSFETs 44, 48; the recited "compensation signal" reads on the voltage at the node between resistor 42 and FET 48 which gets applied to the gate of FET 99; the recited "means for generating a compensation current" reads on FET 99, and the recited "compensation current" reads on current 120. The "current mirror recited on the penultimate line of claim 5 reads on mirror circuit 100.

5. Claim 5 is also rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hwang et al.

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Note Fig. 5, where the recited "means for detecting changes in the voltage supply" reads on the combination of the current mirror formed by FETs 511, 512 and the current mirror formed by FETs 522, 523; the recited "supply voltage source" reads on the power supply which outputs VDD; the recited "means for generating a compensation signal" reads on the current mirror formed by FETs 522, 523; the recited "compensation signal" reads on the voltage at node 550; the recited "means for generating a compensation current" reads on circuit 530, and the recited "compensation current" reads on current I. The "current mirror recited on the penultimate line of claim 5 reads on the mirror circuit formed by FETs 520, 521.

6. Claims 1-4, 8 and 13-17 are allowed.

7. In view of the above-noted new grounds of rejection not necessitated by applicant's amendments, this action is non-final.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kenneth B. Wells whose telephone number is (571)272-1757. The examiner

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can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30am to 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Timothy P. Callahan, can be reached at (571)272-1740. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Kenneth B. Wells
Primary Examiner
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August 3, 2005